

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) The army is in occupation of 115.19 acres of land in Sing Chung village. A joint military civilian survey by a Board of Officers to resolve land encroachment issues was carried out in May, 2003. Formal acquisition of land has not yet been completed. Therefore, the question of benefits being given to land donors does not arise.

Military exercise between India and US

2302. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tri-services military exercises are being planned between Indian and US armed forces;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether such military exercises are being planned with armed forces of other countries?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) No, Sir. Tri-services military exercises are not being planned between the armed forces of the two countries.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Presently, there is no proposal for such military exercises with armed forces of other countries.

Shortage of IL-76 aircraft

†2303. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that about half of the IL-76 aircrafts of Indian Air Force are not worth flying;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action being taken by Government to meet the shortage of these aircrafts?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) All IL-76 aircraft are fly-worthy. However, some aircraft remain on maintenance/overhaul as per schedule and requirement. Maintenance and safety of the aircraft including procurement of spares is a continuous process which is carried out in consultation with the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) in order to ensure optimum serviceability level of the aircraft.

Encroachments of defence land in Hyderabad

2304. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of illegal encroachments and occupation of cantonment lands have been coming up in Hyderabad-Secunderabad areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial action Government propose to initiate, to remove the illegal occupants from the said sensitive areas?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) There are around 900 cases of encroachments/illegal occupations measuring an area of around 59 acres in Secunderabad cantonment. Various cases against encroachments are in progress at various courts of law. Necessary action has been initiated against encroachers for eviction from the defence land under the provisions of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

Increase in cases by Defence personnels in courts

†2305. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of stubborn and autocratic attitude of army officers thousands of cases filed by serving personnel and ex-army men are pending in High Courts and the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details of the pending cases;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.